

Forbearing under Mistreatment

1 Pet 2:24,20 — What kind of glory is there in it if when you do wrong and are punished for it, that you take it patiently? Is that any glory? There is no glory in that — that is what you are supposed to get. But if you bear patiently with suffering which results when you do right, which is undeserved, it is acceptable and well pleasing to God. Anybody can take it when he knows it is something he deserves, but it takes someone spiritual to endure it when he is treated unjustly. Verse 21 — It is to *this* that you have been called. Here is another vocation. It is related to the one in Eph 4:1-3. “*For to this you have been called.*” It is inseparable from your vocation. We are called to forbear when others do us wrong. The word goes together here (Eph 4:1-3 and 1 Pet 2:24) Paul and Peter were on the same wavelength.

1 Pet 2:22-24 — He died so that we may cease to exist to sin, so that we may die to sin. We are learning to cease to exist to sin when we are mistreated. Who has eternal life? Those who are learning to cease to sin and live a righteous life. By His wounds you are healed from those scars, those things in your life. By His wounds you are healed (verse 25).

1 Pet 2:18 speaks to you who are servants. In those days they had servants. It was the system, the way they lived. It applies to us too. Our Father is going to get many kings of the nations from good Châmite slaves who bore up under cruel and unjust masters, along with those masters who were good to their slaves. The unjust masters will receive their just recompense.

There is only credit to you when you endure the pain of unjust suffering. If you deserve it, there is no credit to you. But if you bear patiently with suffering which results when you do right and you did not deserve it, *this* finds favor with God. *This* is what we are called for. This is our calling.

1 Pet 3:1-2 gives the illustration for everyone, not only for wives. It is a principle that you can see all over the Proverbs. *In the same way, you married women who have hard taskmasters for husbands, be submissive to your own husbands — subordinate yourselves as being secondary to and dependent on them. There is peace, there is unity, that ends the*

argument. We are called to do that with one another. We can learn so much by the word — we can be the light of the world. You cannot imagine what kind of people we can be if we are conformed to the word.

Jn 6:44-45 — We are taught by Him. It is not by grace alone. Grace is the strength that God provides, but Rom 1:5 says it is not by grace alone that we come to the obedience of the faith. It is by one more ingredient that we must have, or we will never come to the unity and obedience of the faith — *apostleship*. Christianity will have to learn that. We have to learn it also.

Havah: I can really see that especially in this time of everyone fighting for their rights, you're considered a fool if you take even a harsh word. It's really a gift that we are called to this, that we have a heart to want to take that suffering and not fight back. You can see it's a spiritual thing; you wouldn't choose that in the flesh.